

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A copying system including a host device, a peripheral device connected to the host device, and a printing device, the peripheral device comprising:
  - a reading device that reads an image on an original document as image data;
  - 5 a converting device that converts the image data read by the reading device, into printable data;
  - a first transmission device that transmits to the host device the printable data converted by the converting device; and
  - a reception printing device that receives the printable data from the host
  - 10 device and causes the printing device to print the printable data;
  - the host device comprising:
    - a storage device that stores various data;
    - a reception control device that receives the printable data transmitted from the first transmission device, and stores the printable data in the storage device; and
    - 15 a second transmission device that transmits to the peripheral device the printable data stored in the storage device.
2. The copying system according to claim 1, the host device further comprising:
  - a sorting device that sorts the printable data stored in the storage device in an
  - 20 order of printing for printing by the printing device,
  - wherein the second transmission device transmits to the peripheral device the printable data sorted by the sorting device, in the sorted order.
3. The copying system according to claim 2, further comprising:
  - an input device that inputs a designation provided by an operator,
  - 25 wherein the sorting device sorts the printable data according to the operator's designation input by the input device.
4. The copying system according to claim 2, wherein the sorting device sorts the printable data in an order of printing in either a stack mode where a plurality of copies are consecutively produced for each original document, or a sort mode
- 30 where a plurality of copies are produced as a set of the original documents.
5. The copying system according to claim 1, wherein the printing device performs color printing using a plurality of inks, and the converting device converts

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the image data read by the reading device, into binary data corresponding to the colors of inks included in the printing device.

6. The copying system according to claim 1, wherein the converting device includes an application-specific integrated circuit.

7. The copying system according to claim 1, wherein the printing device performs color printing using a plurality of inks, and the converting device converts the image data read by the reading device, into multi-value data corresponding to the colors of inks included in the printing device.

8. A copying system including a host device having a large-capacity storage device and a peripheral device connected to the host device, the peripheral device having a reading device that reads an image on a color original document and a printing device that prints data read by the reading device, in color, comprising:

a converting device that converts image data of the color original document read by the reading device, into printable data that can be printed by the printing device;

a first transmission device that transmits the data converted by the converting device to the host device from the peripheral device;

a reception control device that receives the data transmitted by the first transmission device and stores the data in the storage device;

a second transmission device that transmits the data stored in the storage device to the peripheral device from the host device; and

a reception printing device that receives the data transmitted by the second transmission device and causes the printing device to print the data.

9. The copying system according to claim 8, the host device further comprising:

a sorting device that sorts the data received and stored in the storage device, in an order of printing by the printing device, without converting the data;

wherein the second transmission device sequentially transmits the data sorted by the sorting device to the peripheral device.

10. The copying system according to claim 9, further comprising:

an input device that inputs a designation provided by an operator;

wherein the sorting device sorts the printable data according to the operator's designation input by the input device.

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11. The copying system according to claim 9, wherein the sorting device sorts the printable data in an order of printing in either a stack mode where a plurality of copies are consecutively produced for each original document, or a sort mode where a plurality of copies are produced in a set of the original documents.

12. The copying system according to claim 8, wherein the printing device performs color printing using a plurality of inks, and the converting device converts the image data read by the reading device, into binary data corresponding to the colors of inks included in the printing device.

13. The copying system according to claim 8, wherein the converting device includes an application-specific integrated circuit.

14. The copying system according to claim 8, wherein the printing device performs color printing using a plurality of inks, and the converting device converts the image data read by the reading device, into multi-value data corresponding to the colors of inks included in the printing device.

15. A method of copying operating a copying system that includes a host device, a peripheral device connected to the host device, and a printing device, the method comprising:

at the peripheral device:

reading an image on an original document as image data;

converting the read image data read, into printable data;

transmitting to the host device the converted printable data; and

receiving the printable data from the host device and causing the printing device to print the printable data;

at the host device:

receiving the printable data transmitted from the peripheral device;

storing the printable data in a storage device; and

transmitting to the peripheral device the printable data stored in the storage device.

16. The method according to claim 15, further comprising:

sorting, at the host device, the printable data stored in the storage device in an order of printing for printing by the printing device,

wherein the transmitting to the peripheral device step includes transmitting the printable data sorted by the sorting device, in the sorted order.

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17. The method according to claim 16, further comprising:  
inputting a designation provided by an operator,  
wherein the sorting step sorts the printable data according to the inputting  
step.

5 18. The method according to claim 16, wherein the sorting step sorts the  
printable data in an order of printing in either a stack mode where a plurality of copies  
are consecutively produced for each original document, or a sort mode where a  
plurality of copies are produced as a set of the original documents.

10 19. The method according to claim 15, wherein the printing device  
performs color printing using a plurality of inks, and the converting device converts  
the image data read in the reading step, into binary data corresponding to the colors of  
inks included in the printing device.

15 20. The method according to claim 19, further comprising:  
sorting, at the host device, the printable data stored in the storage device in an  
order of printing for printing by the printing device,  
wherein the transmitting to the peripheral device step includes transmitting  
the printable data sorted by the sorting device, in the sorted order.

20 21. The method according to claim 20, further comprising:  
inputting a designation provided by an operator,  
wherein the sorting step sorts the printable data according to the inputting  
step.

22. The method according to claim 15, wherein the converting step uses an  
application-specific integrated circuit.

25 23. The method according to claim 15, wherein the printing device  
performs color printing using a plurality of inks, and the converting device converts  
the image data read in the reading step, into multi-value data corresponding to the  
colors of inks included in the printing device.

30 24. A peripheral device capable of connecting to a host device, the  
peripheral device comprising:  
a reading device that reads an image on an original document as image data;  
a converting device that converts the image data read by the reading device,  
into printable data that can be printed by a printing device; and

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32. A storage medium on which is stored a copy program, the storage medium being comprised in copying system including a host device, a peripheral device connected to the host device, and a printing device, the sort copy program comprising instructions to perform:

5 a reading step that reads an image on an original document as image data;  
a converting step that converts the image data read in the reading step, into printable data;

a first transmission step that transmits to the host device the printable data converted in the converting step;

10 a reception printing step that receives the printable data from the host device and causes the printing device to print the printable data;

a storage step that stores various data;

a reception control step that receives the printable data transmitted from the first transmission step, and stores the printable data in the storage step; and

15 a second transmission step that transmits to the peripheral device the printable data stored in the storage step.

33. The storage medium according to claim 32, further comprising:

a sorting step that sorts the printable data stored in the storage step in an order of printing for printing in the printing step,

20 wherein the second transmission step transmits to the peripheral device the printable data sorted in the sorting step, in the sorted order.

34. The storage medium according to claim 33, further comprising:

an input step that inputs a designation provided by an operator,

25 wherein the sorting step sorts the printable data according to the operator's designation input in the input step.

35. The storage medium according to claim 33, wherein the sorting step sorts the printable data in an order of printing in either a stack mode where a plurality of copies are consecutively produced for each original document, or a sort mode where a plurality of copies are produced as a set of the original documents.

30 36. The storage medium according to claim 32, wherein the printing step performs color printing using a plurality of inks, and the converting step converts the image data read in the reading step, into binary data corresponding to the colors of inks.

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37. The storage medium according to claim 32, wherein the converting step uses an application-specific integrated circuit.

38. The storage medium according to claim 32, wherein the printing step performs color printing using a plurality of inks, and the converting step converts the image data read in the reading step, into multi-value data corresponding to the colors of inks.